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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas www.stripes.com

Transformation tops EUCOM's agenda

BY DAVID JOSAR

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — The U.S. European Command in the past year “rediscovered itself” as NATO alliances changed, its commander said this week. And in the upcoming year EUCOM could see itself more involved in the war on terrorism.

Still, according to the EUCOM commander, Marine Gen. James Jones, transformation will probably top the command's agenda.

Jones said Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld is “pleased” with the EUCOM transformation plan, but it is still unknown when the plan will be implemented and how much of it will become reality. The draft has not been released publicly.

Jones and his team submitted to Rumsfeld the third of three plans they created. The process took about four months, he said.

Jones cautioned that his draft is a “military plan, submitted without any political judgment made on top of it.”

In an interview this week with Stars and Stripes, Jones also said:

He believes that by 2004 the United States will be out of Bosnia and Herzegovina militarily, although there could still be “policing” activities; a similar scenario could occur in Kosovo, too. Jones said it’s “nice to see a mission come to an end, even if it takes a long time.”

The 173rd Airborne had been traditionally EUCOM's quick-reaction force but be-

cause it remains deployed in Iraq, Marine Expeditionary units floating in the Mediterranean will now fill that role.

The command will probably see a growing role in the war against terrorism in the Africa portion of the command's 93-country area of responsibility.

No Europe-based unit deployed to Iraq or the Middle East will be sent directly back to the United States as the result of transformation.

Urban growth and the lack of adequate training grounds have forced EUCOM to look outside its current basing structure for new areas to hone their skills.

Jones foresees Africa as the next battleground in the war on terrorism.

“As the noose tightens a lit-

tle bit in the war on terror, Africa becomes a haven,” he said.

Already existing in Africa are markets for the weapons used by terrorists, and Africa also is used for the narcotics trafficking that funds terrorism, he said.

The area's poor economic growth has created a recruiting ground for radical fundamentalists, he said. EUCOM, through Operation Active Endeavor, has already been working that prong of the terrorism war.

The command is using the Sixth Fleet, in tandem with NATO forces, to provide security for ships as they patrol the Mediterranean.

As a result, illegal immigration in the western Mediterranean has dropped 50 percent

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First U.S. troops head for rest and recuperation on two-week leave



U.S. Army soldier Adrian DuPree hugs his fiancée, Mieasha Pompey, as he talks to reporters after arriving at Baltimore-Washington International Airport Friday, in Linthicum, Md. DuPree has served in Iraq and has been given a two-week vacation. Some soldiers ended their R&R journey in Germany, but for others, like DuPree, it was just a layover for the final U.S. destination. Commanders hope this 15-day vacation will be a good mental and physical break for the troops.

AP

EUCOM

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and commercial insurance for ships has dropped 20 percent in recent months.

"They are very risky places for smugglers and trafficking. ... It is the safest it has been for some time for the shipping lanes," he said.

Operation Active Endeavor has been one of the lesser-known roles of EUCOM in the war on terror.

The command is also providing transportation and logistics help to countries such as Poland, Hungary, Spain and others who are aiding the United States in Iraq. Command officials also were the liaisons with Turkish officials and helped create the "air bridge" that got U.S. troops into northern Iraq.

Jones said despite political tensions between U.S. and foreign leaders, there has never been that sort of split between military leaders at NATO. The alliance, especially with the start next month of a NATO Response Force, is following a similar track to the United States' own transformation plan.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the alliance had found itself in a vacuum, Jones said, but NATO is now transforming itself and "becoming more relevant to the asymmetrical threat of the 21st century."

As NATO expands to the east and adds countries from the former Soviet bloc to its alliance, the United States is forging ties in that direction. Jones rattled off Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Poland and Croatia when talking about countries wanting to forge stronger ties with the U.S. military. He said those countries are interested in developing all-volunteer militaries, increasing the role of non-commissioned officers and teaching their junior officers.

At the same time those countries provide U.S. forces with training opportunities that are no longer available in Western Europe because of urbanization.

"You really need more open spaces," he said, noting that the same problems the United States has had with training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., or with Navy firing ranges in Puerto Rico are a reality in Europe, too.

Exactly when EUCOM shifts toward Eastern Europe, though, is a question mark. Jones concedes he does not know how much of his draft plan will become reality.

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News tracker: What's new with old news

States

Columbine statements not needed: A magistrate ordered the destruction of sealed statements that the parents of the Columbine High School gunmen gave as part of a wrongful death lawsuit.

U.S. Magistrate Patricia Coan said Thursday there appeared to be no need to keep the depositions from the parents of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold because the case had concluded.

The families of five victims settled the case for unspecified damages. They claimed in their lawsuit that the gunmen's parents knew or should have known what their sons were plotting before the shootings.

Updated diet guidelines for all: Several experts updating the nation's benchmarks for good eating habits plan to aim their "eat well, exercise regularly" message at healthy consumers, rejecting the government's suggestion they direct their diet advice to overweight Americans.

The panel acknowledges that obesity is a problem, since 64 percent of adults and 13 percent of children are overweight, but some members doubt they should offer advice on losing weight through guidelines meant to help all consumers improve the way they eat.

World

Suu Kyi under house arrest: Myanmar's detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi was discharged from a hospital Friday night and returned to her home, officials said. Her doctor said she'll be under house arrest.

Witnesses in the capital, Yangon, confirmed that Suu Kyi left the Asia Royal Cardiac and Medical Center, where she underwent surgery on Sep. 19, and returned to her lakeside villa at about 8:30 p.m.

Before entering the hospital, she'd been held incommunicado by the government at an undisclosed location since the end of May.

Clinton: China censored book: The Chinese call it a matter of mere "technical changes." U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton calls it censorship.

The former first lady pronounced herself "amazed and outraged" Wednesday that politically sensitive material had been rewritten or removed from the Chinese-language version of her memoir, without the knowledge of her or her U.S. publisher, Simon & Schuster.

The 466-page Chinese edition of "Living History" — a best seller — does not contain Clinton's comments about the 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy protests. A segment about Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu is reduced to almost nothing and refers to him as a spy awaiting sentencing.

More charged in Algeria kidnapping:

Germany has issued international arrest warrants for four more men suspected of helping kidnap 32 European tourists in Algeria, including 16 Germans, Federal Prosecutor Kay Nehm said Friday.

Warrants were issued charging the men, who are all at large, with membership in a foreign terrorist organization and attempted blackmail of the German government, Nehm said in a statement. The same charges were added to a warrant for Amari Saifi, known as Abderrazak al-Para, the man suspected of orchestrating the kidnappings.

Military

AF scandal over cadet sex offense: A former Air Force Academy cadet who admitted trying to have sex with a fellow cadet in 1994 after she said no and tried to ward him off was discharged under honorable conditions and is now a sergeant in the Army.

Maurice Cooper said he thought it odd the attack did not appear to be a factor in his dismissal from the academy the next year. He said he was discharged over an unrelated alcohol violation.

The case is among hundreds of sexual assault reports that are being reviewed by military and congressional investigators. Dozens of female cadets have said they were reprimanded or ostracized after they reported being raped.

Rota-based sailor pleads guilty to child-porn charges

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — An international child pornography investigation helped Navy special agents catch a Rota-based U.S. sailor with thousands of images and videos on his personal computer.

Petty Officer 1st Class Martin L. Edgeworth, 40, pleaded guilty at a general court-martial last week to charges of receiving and possessing child pornography and indecent acts of fondling and photographing a minor's genitalia, the Navy said.

Edgeworth, an aviation maintenance administrationman assigned to Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Two, admitted to committing the crimes on or before Aug. 27, 2002, in the Rota area.

The Navy sentenced Edgeworth to six years' confinement and a dishonorable discharge, said Senior Chief Petty Officer Steven Galvan, a spokesman for Fleet Air Mediterranean command based in Naples, Italy. Edge-

worth was about six months shy of his 20th year of service in the Navy.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service was tipped off to Edgeworth's stash of child pornography on his hard drive by an international investigation into people who operated child pornography Web sites. The investigation is ongoing and involves law enforcement agencies from across the globe, Galvan said.

Web site subscriber lists that turned up during the worldwide investigation identified Edgeworth as a customer.

In the last three years, the investigative service's special agents have cracked down on those who download child pornography with their office computers.

Special software has enabled agents in Rota to track and find people surfing known child pornography sites.

Downloading child pornography is a felony.

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Telemarketer group won't dial from list

BY DAVID HO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The largest telemarketing industry group says it wants its members to abide by the national "do-not-call" list next week despite two court rulings that have thrown the program's future into legal limbo.

"We are telling our members, yes indeed, we don't want you calling people who have told anyone they don't want any calls," Direct Marketing Association President H. Robert Wientzen said Friday.

Regardless of ruling, largest firm will respect 'do-not-call'

He said he hasn't had time to arrange agreements making that request binding, but "up to the moment I have had nobody disagree."

The list of nearly 51 million phone numbers is scheduled to go into effect Wednesday, but rulings by two federal courts have made that plan unlikely.

U.S. District Judge Edward W. Nottingham in Denver issued a ruling late Thursday saying the list violates

telemarketers' free speech rights.

Federal Trade Commission Chairman Timothy Muris said Friday the agency will fight the decision.

"I do not believe that our Constitution dictates such an illogical result," Muris said. "To the contrary, our Constitution allows consumers to choose not to receive commercial telemarketing calls."

Muris said that if Nottingham's reasoning were ap-

plied elsewhere, it would cripple the more than two dozen state do-not-call lists.

The FTC is still allowing people to sign up for the list at the Web site www.donot-call.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222.

However, the latest court ruling means the agency can't penalize telemarketers for violating the registry, said Walter Janowski, a director with research firm Gartner Inc.

"This likely precludes a quick fix such as Congress' attempt yesterday," he said. "We can expect multiple appeals potentially as high as the Supreme Court."

Writer Plimpton, rocker Palmer die

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — George Plimpton, the self-deprecating author of "Paper Lion" and other sporting adventures and a patron to Philip Roth, Jack Kerouac and countless other writers, has died. He was 76.

Meanwhile, rock singer Robert Palmer, known for tunes such as "Simply Irresistible" and "Addicted to Love," died Thursday of an apparent heart attack.

Plimpton died Thursday night at his Manhattan apartment, his longtime friend, restaurateur Elaine Kaufman, said Friday. She had no information on the cause.

"I saw him the other day. He was full of energy," said Kaufman, who said she had known Plimpton for 40 years.

Palmer, who has lived in Switzerland for the last 16 years, was on a two-day break in Paris with his partner of 20 years, Mary Ambrose, following a television recording session in Britain, Cater said.

The "Addicted to Love" video, where Palmer sings in front of a band of sleek, look-alike models playing guitars, keyboard and drums, became one of MTV's most-played clips, and sparked protests from some feminists.

Japan quake injures more than 300

BY GARY SCHAEFER
The Associated Press

TOKYO — The world's most powerful earthquake in 2 ½ years injured more than 300 people and knocked out power in northern Japan, but experts said it was lucky things weren't far worse. The quake was centered deep under the ocean, and the region it shook was well prepared.

Two fishermen were miss-

ing after the pre-dawn magnitude-8 quake, and police suspected they may have been swept away by tsunami, or ocean waves, that followed.

Most of the injured on the northern island of Hokkaido suffered minor scrapes caused by broken glass and falling objects.

The 4:50 a.m. temblor cracked roads, capsized fishing boats, and caved in part of the roof of the airport in Obihiro, a city of 200,000. Else-

where, it knocked merchandise off store shelves.

Kushiro, 560 miles northeast of Tokyo, was believed to be the hardest hit.

It forced the evacuation of 41,000 people and left some 16,000 homes blacked out. But by evening, power had been restored to all but 2,000 homes and only 1,400 evacuees remained in shelters, said Hiroyuki Nakao, a local government spokesman.

Victim was EMT's son

COLD SPRING, Minn. — When a second shooting victim was found near the weight room at Rocori High School, emergency worker Tom Rollins rush to give first aid.

There, he found his son Aaron, mortally wounded.

Rollins' 17-year-old son died at a hospital a short time later. Seth Bartell, 14, the other victim, remained in critical condition early Friday.

New hurricane forms

MIAMI — Hurricane Juan formed deep in the Atlantic on Friday, the fifth hurricane of the Atlantic season. A tropical storm warning was issued for Bermuda, but forecasters predicted the hurricane would pass well to the east of the island chain on a route toward Canada.

Juan had sustained winds of 75 mph, and was expected to take a north-northwest path and strengthen in the next 24 hours, said hurricane specialist Stacy Stewart at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Duct tape's many uses

WASILLA, Alaska — A hunter attacked by a grizzly bear on a remote trail said he used duct tape to bind his bite wounds, then rode an all-terrain vehicle to his pickup truck and drove himself to a hospital.

Bill Murphy said the Sept. 17 attack happened after he surprised a grizzly cub and its mother on a trail northeast of Anchorage where he was hunting for moose and sheep.

The mother bear pinned him face-down, clamped her jaws around his right shoulder and shook him like a rag.

From The Associated Press

Oregon's QB tandem is doubling over opponents

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

The Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. — The proof that Oregon's quarterback tandem works well comes each time Kellen Clemens or Jason Fife jogs off the field and the other takes over.

"They are the first people — every time they replace each other and leave the field — to shake each other's hand," coach Mike Bellotti said. "And I think that's tremendously important for their own psyche, for their own relationship and respect. And for the team to recognize that is part and parcel why we've had success doing it."

Tenth-ranked Oregon (4-0, 1-0 Pac-10) has found a groove this season by rotating quarterbacks, with each bringing different talents to stylic defenses — and little argument about who is starting or who gets the most snaps.

The two have completed 64.2 percent of their passes for an average of 276.2 yards a game with 11 touchdowns and no interceptions.

"It's working pretty good so far," said Clemens, a 6-foot-2, 210-pound sophomore from tiny Burns, Ore. "As long as we're winning we're happy with anything."

Clemens has started four games and has completed 50 of 85 passes for 729 yards and seven touchdowns.

Fife, a 6-foot-2, 222-pound senior who Bellotti refuses to refer to as a backup, is 27-of-35 for 376 yards and four touchdowns. Fife has also rushed for four scores and has mastered the no-huddle offense.

"So far, they've made it easy for me to justify getting them both in a game," Bellotti said.

Both will have their role when Oregon plays No. 21 Washington State (3-1, 0-0) Saturday in a key Pac-10 matchup and the nation's only game between ranked teams.

Oregon is coming off a 31-27 upset of then-No. 3 Michigan last weekend. The Cougars beat New Mexico 23-13.

With each victory, the Jason versus Kellen debate that had raged since last season has been quieted.

Hopes were high last season. The Ducks, led by Heisman finalist Joey Harrington, went 11-1 the year before, claiming the Pac-10 title and a No. 2 national ranking after soundly defeating Colorado in the Fiesta Bowl.

At first it seemed the team picked up where it left off: The Ducks, with Fife as the starter, opened reeled off six straight victories, reached as high as No. 6 in the poll and appeared on the way to another conference title.

But Oregon lost six of its last seven games and punctuated the dramatic slide with a 38-17 loss to Wake Forest in the Seattle Bowl to finish 7-6.

Clemens replaced Fife in that final game after the first quarter.

During spring and fall practices, no clear No. 1 quarterback appeared — to the confusion of fans who had hoped for another Harrington. The season started and there was still no answer.

Bellotti apparently decided the best choice is no choice. Why not use them both?

"So far they're doing a great job of getting us in the end zone and being efficient," Bellotti said. "They bring different things to the table that make us more difficult to defend."

While Clemens has emerged as the starter, Fife is called the team's "spark plug."

"Obviously I don't refer to Jason as a reserve or the second-string guy. He's a starter in my mind. It's just a matter of when he gets in the game and how he sparks the team," Bellotti said.

Bellotti said Oregon's coaches design plays every week to suit each quarterback's talent.

The plan worked well against Michigan, although the defense deserves most of the credit as the Wolverines' powerful rushing offense finished with minus-3 yards.

Clemens, who started for Oregon, was 15 of 23 for 160 yards, while Fife was 5 of 8 for 93 yards and rushed for a score.

"They're both very good quarterbacks," Michigan coach Lloyd Carr said. "I think it speaks to their abilities the fact that he [Bellotti] is willing to play them both."

NFL hits Broncos, Smith with fines

The Associated Press

DENVER — The NFL fined the Denver Broncos \$25,000 for showing up in the wrong colored uniforms for a game against San Diego and fined wide receiver Rod Smith \$20,000 for accidentally hitting an official.

The Broncos were penalized for wearing white uniforms Sept. 14 against San Diego, even though Denver had agreed beforehand to wear dark uniforms.

Home teams declare which uniform they will wear for each game before the season, and the Chargers had chosen white for that game.

Smith was fined for striking umpire Udney Wash during Monday night's 31-10 win over Oakland. Smith got tangled with Raiders defensive tackle Chris Cooper after a 6-yard reception and took a wild swing that struck Wash.

RB Portis' status uncertain

DENVER — Denver Broncos running back Clinton Portis still isn't sure if he'll be able to play Sunday against Detroit.

Portis can't shake the soreness in his chest and he's having a hard time finding a treatment that helps.

"I think my chances are good for Sunday," Portis said Thursday. "Hopefully, I'm playing because I don't want to miss a game for anything."

Portis was optimistic, but coach Mike Shanahan wasn't so sure after the running back missed practice for the second straight day.

"You never know, but it's not a good sign anytime a guy doesn't practice for two days," Shanahan said. "There's a conditioning factor. These other guys are getting good reps. You don't practice for a couple of days and it's not easy to go out there and perform."

While Portis hasn't made much progress, strong safety Kenoy Kennedy has.

Kennedy tested his sprained left ankle with some backpedaling Thursday, but still wasn't able to practice with the team.

"I was surprised. He was doing some backpedaling over there, which I thought was a good sign," Shanahan said. "I'd still leave it as questionable to doubtful."

Portis was injured two weeks ago when San Diego's Kwame Lassiter hit him under the pads. He started against the Oakland Raiders on Monday night but missed most of the second half after landing on his shoulder.

Portis said what was originally a bruised sternum has now made the whole side of his chest sore. He has been working the muscles, but that really doesn't ease the pain. "What kind of treatment can you get for it, really?" he said.

"I mean, rest, and you do core exercises trying to work the muscles around it, but it takes time. It's not like you can just put something on it. You get an ankle injury, you wrap it up and try to go out and run a route, but there's nothing you can really do about this."

There also isn't much he can do about protecting the injury if he does play.

Portis could try wearing a flak jacket, which protects the

NFL BRIEFS

ribs, but his injury starts at the center of his chest and works out toward his right arm.

"If I fall on my shoulder or something it'll still happen, so the flak jacket won't protect it," Portis said. "I don't think there's anything that can protect it."

Holmes misses practice but expected to play Sunday

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Kansas City Chiefs running back Priest Holmes was held out of practice Thursday with a sore hip muscle.

Holmes underwent arthroscopic hip surgery in March, but general manager Carl Peterson said on his radio show Thursday night that Holmes would not miss Sunday's game at Baltimore.

"Last week he didn't practice on Wednesday, and how did he do against Houston?" Peterson said. "He's a pro. He knows what he has to do to get ready. This is not a major concern in any fashion."

Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil said Holmes, whose league-leading seven rushing TDs have been key to Kansas City's 3-0 start, would be listed as questionable.

Vermeil said he did not believe the problem was in the same area where doctors performed the arthroscopic surgery.

"It bothered him some yesterday and he did our walk-through this morning and was fine," Vermeil said. "This afternoon it was a little risky to push him."

Holmes had 18 carries for 89 yards and two touchdowns and caught four passes for 67 yards at Houston last week. His 296 yards rushing are third in the AFC and fourth in the league while his 467 net yards from scrimmage are second in the league.

"Priest Holmes is not going to miss the opportunity to go to Baltimore and play against his old team," Peterson said.

Culpepper might be upgraded

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Vikings quarterback Daunte Culpepper could be upgraded from doubtful to questionable for Minnesota's game against San Francisco.

Culpepper, who has not practiced this week, cracked three bones in his back when he ran for a touchdown last Sunday at Detroit. He began the week listed as doubtful on the injury report and backup Gus Frerotte has been working with the first team in practice.

But coach Mike Tice said Thursday that Culpepper, the NFL's highest rated passer, has made good progress and could be upgraded Friday morning.

Tice planned to let Culpepper practice Friday before determining whether to allow his star quarterback to face the 49ers' quick pass rush. San Francisco leads the league with 13 sacks this season.

Scores/standings

American League

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-New York	98	60	.620	—
x-Boston	94	65	.591	4½
Toronto	84	75	.528	14½
Baltimore	70	88	.443	28
Tampa Bay	61	98	.384	37½

CENTRAL DIVISION

y-Minnesota	89	70	.560	—
Chicago	83	76	.522	6
Kansas City	83	76	.522	6
Cleveland	67	92	.421	22
Detroit	41	118	.258	48

WEST DIVISION

y-Oakland	96	63	.604	—
Seattle	90	69	.566	6
Anaheim	75	84	.472	21
Texas	70	89	.440	26

x-clinched wild card

y-clinched division

Thursday's games

Boston 14, Baltimore 3
Toronto 10, Tampa Bay 8
Detroit 5, Minnesota 4, 11 innings
Kansas City 7, Chicago White Sox 3

National League

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Atlanta	99	60	.623	—
Florida	89	70	.560	10
Philadelphia	85	74	.535	14
Montreal	81	78	.509	18
New York	65	93	.411	33½

CENTRAL DIVISION

Chicago	86	73	.541	—
Houston	86	73	.541	—
St. Louis	83	76	.522	3
Pittsburgh	74	85	.465	12
Cincinnati	68	91	.428	18
Milwaukee	66	93	.415	20

WEST DIVISION

x-San Francisco	97	60	.618	—
Los Angeles	84	74	.532	13½
Arizona	83	76	.522	15
Colorado	72	87	.453	26
San Diego	63	96	.396	35

x-clinched division

Thursday's games

Arizona 8, Colorado 7
Florida 8, Philadelphia 4
Cincinnati 9, Chicago Cubs 7
Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Mets 1
Houston 6, Milwaukee 1
San Diego 6, Los Angeles 1

From The Associated Press